THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The necessary details are being worked out.

(c) and (d) As regard revision of the definition of small scale industries and enhancing the investment limit for SSI etc., an Expert Committee on Small Enterprises has been set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. Abid Hussain (former member, Planning Commission) in order to examine the promotion and protective policies relating to the small scale sector and their related aspects. The recommendations of the Committee are yet to be received. At present there is no proposal for raising the equity participation from the existing 24% by large units (either domestic or foreign) in a small scale industrial unit.

Working of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics

3388. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recent assessment has been done about the working of the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics;

(b) the substantial work recently done by this Directorate;

(c) how has this work helped in boosting our internal and external commerce; and

(d) the steps taken to increase the efficiency of this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) DGCI&S, a subordinate office of the Ministry of Commerce, is the official nodal agency responsible for collection, compilation & dissemination of data on India's foreign trade. The statistics provided by DGCI&S are used by the Ministry of Commerce to monitor and review the effect of the Import Export Policy and is also used by other national and international agencies & private entrepreneurs for various purposes. The statistics help the Govt. to identify trends, monitor balance of trade and to make changes in the policy to enable marketing of Indian goods in the competitive world trade environment.

No recent assessment has been done about the working of the office of Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics.

Industrial Dispute Tribunals-cum-Labour Courts without Presiding Officers

3389. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial dispute tribunals-cum-labour courts in Delhi are without any presiding officers and on a public litigation the Supreme Court had directed the filing up of the vacancies in the industrial disputes tribunals without delay;

(b) if so, the reasons for not filling up the posts of presiding officers in the industrial disputes tribunalas-cum-labour courts;

(c) the number of cases pending in these tribunals, and since when; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to dispose of those cases speedily to make the litigation cheaper and speedier?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (d) On the basis of the information received from Govt. of NCT of Delhi, a statement is enclosed.

Statement

(a) There are 3 (Three) Industrial Tibunals and 10 (Ten) Labour Courts in Delhi. Presiding Officers of 3 (Three) Labour Courts have been repatriated to their parent cadre on the request of the High Court of Delhi and their work has

been assigned to Presiding Officers of other Labour Courts in addition to their own duties. On a public interest litigation the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has directed—

> "The process of making appointment should start well in advance of the impending vacancies so that new incumbents will be in a position to take their office immediately after the retirement of the present incumbents."

(b) Officers of appointment were sent to 7 (Seven) officers on the panel for appointment to the post of Presiding Officer, Labour Court. Only 2 (Two) Officers have joined till date, 3 (Three) Officers have shown their inability to accept the offer of appointment and remaining 2 (Two) Officers have not joined inspite of reminders. Steps are being taken to invite fresh applications from eligible judicial officers to fill up the vacancies.

(c) In all 21058 Industrial Disputes and 15871 applications were pending as on 30.06.1996 in Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts of Delhi. The details of period of pendency are as follows:

Sl. No.	Pending for	Industrial disputes	Application
1.	Upto 1 year	8748	5781
2.	Between 1 to 2 years	3426	2434
3.	Between 2 to 3 years	2145	1979
4.	More than 3 years	6739	5677
	Total	21058	15871

(d) The following steps have been taken to dispose of these cases speedily:—

1. Norms for disposal of cases of each Presiding Officer have been fixed.

2. Review meetings of Presiding Officers of Industrial Tribunals/Labour Courts are convened to identify the problems and to discuss possible remedial measures to accelerate the pace of disposal of long pending cases.

3. The Presiding Officers of Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts have been advised to take up old cases on priority basis and give short adjournments to ensure early disposal.

4. Fresh disputes are being refered to the Industrial Tribunals/Labour Courts having lesser number of cases.

5. Presiding Officers of Industrial Tribunals and Labour Courts are advised to discourage adjournments on flimsy or frivolous grounds.

6. Two additional Labour Courts were created and the same became functional w.e.f. May 18, 1994.

Average Price of Imported Standard Newsprint

3390. SHRI SATYANARAYANA DRONAMRAJU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the different international average price of improted standard newsprint during the year 1992-93 specially from Canada, Poland and Sweden alongwith STC's import price indicating the name of suppliers and its Indian agents;

(b) the detailed selling price of STC indicating the time taken for its disposal from manufacturing date;

(c) the details of parties to who STC sold these imported standard newsprint consignments indicating its RNI registration number; and

(d) the detailed profit and loss account of these transactions specifying interest on blocked capital, storage costs, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) The